

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 00566 151802Z

70

ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3171

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 0566

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, RW, UG

SUBJ: VISIT TO RWANDA (AND UGANDA) OF ROK ASST FONMIN KIM

DONG WHIE

REF: SEOUL 6586

1. RWANDA ROK ASST FONMIN KIM VISIT KIGALI OCT 11-15. VISIT AFFECTED DETRIMENTALLY BY RWANDAN DECISION CO-SPONSOR HOSTILE UNGA RESOLUTION AND FAILURE EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS HONOR HIS THRICE CONFIRMED RESERVATION FROM KAMPALA WHICH DELAYED HIS ARRIVAL (HE FINALLY TOOK CHARTER) THUS MISSING APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA. KIM RECOUPED BY EXTENDING STAY AND MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OCT 14. BASIC THURST HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH GOR OFFICIALS WAS TO STATE RWANDAN SUPPORT NORTH KOREAN POSITIONS INCONSISTENT WITH NON-ALIGNED STANCE AND HIS REGRET FONMIN NSEKALIJE HAD AS YET NOT ACCEPTED INVITATION VISIT SEOUL (BUT YET WENT TO PYONGYANG). ONLY HOPEFUL SIGN TO KIM WAS THAT RWANDAN OFFICIALS "SEEMED" TO INDICATE THEIR POSITION WAS NOT FIXED AND MIGHT VARY DEPENDING UPON CIRCUMSTANCES.

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 00566 151802Z

2. PRIVATELY, KIM INDICATED HE HELD ROK AMB KAMPALA

CULPABLE FOR BEING INACTIVE IN RWANDA AND LETTING KIGALI CHARGE CARRY LOAD. WHILE NOTING NEED INCREASED ROK VISIBILITY, HE MAY WELL WRITE RWANDA OFF AND MAY NOT NOW ACTIVELY PURSUE SEOUL INVITATION TO RWANDAN FONMIN. HE APPEARED DISCOUNT ANY ROK ECONOMIC OR CULTURAL ASSISTANCE TO OFFSET DPRK EFFORTS, BUT WAS RECONSIDERING AT END OF VISIT. HE ALSO INTIMATED HIS CURRENT AFRICAN VISIT SOMETHING OF AN INSPECTION TOUR AND THAT FOLLOWING HIS RETURN AND COMPLETION UNGA, ROK FONOFF MAY RESTRUCTURE ITS DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN AFRICAN STATES.

3. UGANDA-UNEXPECTED BRIGHT SPOT FOR KIM WAS PROVIDED BY COINCIDENCE HIS STOPOVER KAMPALA WITH UGANDA NATIONAL DAY AND PRESIDENT AMIN'S IMPULSIVE INVITATION FOR KIM ATTEND FESTIVITIES AS "SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY" (TO WHICH KIM READILY ACCEDED). USSR AND PRC EMBS REACTION HAD BEEN FRENETIC. HE TERMED DISCUSSIONS WITH AMIN "EXCELLENT" AND THAT LATTER FIRMLY OPPOSED DPRK.

4. FOR AMB SNEIDER/DCM ERICSON- APPRECIATED REFTEL AND OPPORTUNITY MEET KIM WHOM I PREVIOUSLY KNEW IN TOKYO. WE PROVIDED FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE TO DEGREE HE WISHED-- INCLUDING AVOIDANCE EXCESSIVE AMERICAN COLORATION TO VISIT. FRITTS

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